

Message Text

SECRET

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47

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EA: RGMSTOREY: FCC

5/19/73 EXT 21311

APPROVED BY EA/ VN: LBASKEW

DOD/ JCS: MG PAULY (INFORMED)

PM: JFLADD (DRAFT)

EA: AWHUMMEL (DRAFT)

S/ S- MR. MILLER

----- 111845

P 191724 Z MAY 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL JEC PARIS PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 096643

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MACP, VS

SUBJECT: F-111 BEACON

REF: (A) SAIGON 8687, (B) STATE 94150

FOR ALDRICH

1. THE FOLLOWING TECHNICAL AND OPERATIONAL DATA ON THE
F-111 BEACON DESCRIBED IN REFTELS IS FORWARDED AS
BACKGROUND:

2. THE BEACON AND BATTERY PACK TOGETHER ARE ABOUT TWO FEET
SQUARE AND WEIGH 25 POUNDS. IT IS LOCATED IN AN ARVN
BATTALION OUTPOST IN SOUTH VIET- NAM AT THE CAMBODIAN
FRONTIER NEAR THE MEKONG RIVER IN KIEN PHOUNG PROVINCE.
THE BATTERY- PACK HAS A 24 HOUR " IN- USE- LIFE- WE UNDER-
STAND THE PACKAGE WAS BROUGHT INTO SOUTH VIET- NAM
THROUGH US CHANNELS IN RECENT DAYS AND WAS PUT IN
POSITION BY A DAO REPRESENTATIVE OF EMBASSY SAIGON, THE
BEACON IS ONE OF FIVE NOW OPERATIONAL; FOUR ARE IN
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CAMBODIA. THE BEACON IS ACTIVATED BY A SOUTH VIETNAMESE OPERATOR AT THE OUTPOST. IT IS TECHNICALLY A NAVIGATIONAL AID AND PROVIDES COMPLETE F-111 ALL- WEATHER ACCURACY UP TO 15 NAUTICAL MILES WITH A RANGE OF 35-40 NM. SIMILAR BEACONS HAVE BEEN USED IN SVN IN THE PAST, HOWEVER, THIS IS THE ONLY ONE NOW IN USE IN SVN. IT CAN ALSO BE USED

BY B-52 AND A-1 AIRCRAFT. IN ADDITION TO PROVIDING A POSITIVE POSITION LOCATION AND ACCURACY FOR DELIVERY OF ORDNANCE IT ALSO INCREASES ASSURANCE THAT DELIVERY DOES NOT OCCUR ON THE SVN SIDE OF THE FRONTIER. JCS CONSIDERS THIS BEACON TO BE OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE TO THE PRESENT AIR CAMPAIGN. RUSH

SECRET
NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS
*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

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